Attorney Docket No.:

T5530.CIP (UT-0006)

Inventors: Serial No.: Filing Date: Rao et al. 09/109,858 July 2, 1998

Page 7

REMARKS

Claims 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 26, 27 and 60 are pending in the instant application. Claims 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 26 and 27 have been allowed by the Examiner.

Claim 60 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner suggests that Applicants do not adequately describe use of the genus of "mammalian" ES cells.

Claim 60 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as the Examiner suggests that the phrase "neural differentiating conditions" is confusing.

Applicants respectfully traverse both of these rejections with respect to claim 60. ES cells in multiple mammalian species were well known at the time of filing the instant application. Accordingly, Applicants believe the specification is enabling for more than the exemplified mouse ES cells.

Further, Applicants believe what is meant by the phrase "neural differentiating conditions" is clear when read in light of the specification. However, in light of the Examiner's allowance of claims 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 26 and 27, to simplify prosecution in this case and gain allowance of the subject matter

T5530.CIP (UT-0006)

Attorney Docket No.: Inventors: Serial No.:

Rao et al. 09/109,858

July 2, 1998 Filing Date:

Page 8

of claims 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 26 and 27, Applicants are canceling claim 60, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claim 60 in a separate application.

Applicants believe that this submission overcomes all pending rejections in this case and comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and subsequent allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

→ PTOAF

Kathleen A. Tyrrell Registration No.

Date: January 13, 2004

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